

ENROLLED SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 61

By: Holt, Adelson, Aldridge,
Allen, Anderson, Ballenger,
Barrington, Bass, Bingman,
Branan, Brecheen, Brinkley,
Brown, Burrage, Childers,
Coates, Crain, David, Eason
McIntyre, Ellis, Fields,
Ford, Garrison, Griffin,
Halligan, Ivester, Johnson
(Constance), Johnson (Rob),
Jolley, Justice, Laster,
Lerblance, Marlatt, Mazzei,
McAffrey, Newberry,
Nichols, Paddack, Russell,
Schulz, Shortey, Simpson,
Sparks, Stanislawski,
Sykes, Treat, Wilson and
Wyrick

A Resolution celebrating the Centennial of Jim
Thorpe's gold medal-winning performances in the 1912
Olympic Games, Oklahoma's rich Olympic tradition, and
the growing Oklahoma Olympic movement and its impact
on the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

WHEREAS, Jim Thorpe, a native Oklahoman and American Indian, in
1912 represented the United States at the Olympic Games in
Stockholm, Sweden. Thorpe won gold medals in the pentathlon and
decathlon, and was the first American to win a gold medal in the
decathlon, in which he set a world record; and

WHEREAS, having been voted numerous times as the greatest
athlete of the Twentieth Century, Thorpe is widely regarded as

America's greatest all-around male athlete and perhaps the greatest athlete who ever lived; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of the Centennial of Jim Thorpe's gold medal-winning performances at the 1912 Olympic Games, the Jim Thorpe Museum and Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, home of the Jim Thorpe Award, is featuring a special exhibit on the 1912 Olympics, featuring artifacts from the 1912 games; and

WHEREAS, also in celebration of the Centennial of Jim Thorpe's 1912 Olympic performance, the Jim Thorpe Native American Games will be held in Oklahoma City from June 10-17; and

WHEREAS, in commemoration of this anniversary of Oklahoma's greatest Olympic achievement, the Oklahoma State Senate wishes to honor Jim Thorpe's performances along with the achievements of the 15 Olympians in the Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, including John Smith, Shannon Miller, Kenny Monday, J.W. Mashburn, Wayman Tisdale and Michele Smith; and

WHEREAS, the International Gymnastics "Wall of Fame" in the Science Museum Oklahoma in Oklahoma City's Adventure District celebrates some of the world's greatest Olympic legends, including Olga Korbut, Mary Lou Retton, and Nadia Comaneci; and

WHEREAS, the Olympic movement in Oklahoma today is stronger than it has ever been, with the presence of official Olympic and Paralympic training sites at the University of Central Oklahoma and the Oklahoma River, soon to be upgraded by the taxpayers of Oklahoma City into one of the finest rowing and canoe/kayak venues in the world, the recent relocation of USA Canoe Kayak's headquarters to Oklahoma City, the recent staging on the Oklahoma River of USA Canoe Kayak's Olympic trials, and the continuing staging of world class gymnastics events by Oklahoma Sports Hall of Famer Bart Conner and Nadia Comaneci; and

WHEREAS, athletes with Oklahoma ties will be well-represented at the 2012 Olympic Games in London, including rowers, gymnasts, Paralympians, and members of the Oklahoma City Thunder.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

THAT the Oklahoma State Senate celebrates the Centennial of Jim Thorpe's gold medal-winning performances in the 1912 Olympic Games, Oklahoma's rich Olympic tradition, and the growing Oklahoma Olympic movement, soon to be felt at the 2012 Olympic Games in London.

Adopted by the Senate the 15th day of May, 2012.

Presiding Officer of the Senate